

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
July 11, 2017

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION:** President Hardaway asked for a moment of silence in remembrance for the passing of Ron Widing. President Hardaway asked for prayers for Mr. Pettit as memorializes his brother in Montana.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Pettit was absent. All other members were present.

**PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:**

Mrs. Uzelac read a Proclamation honoring Vickie and Mark Antich. The Town of Merrillville extends congratulations and praise to Mr. & Mrs. Antich for their dedication and support for improving the lives of the men & women in the United States Armed Forces. The Veterans View Radio Show presented a Citizens Soldier Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. & Mrs. Antich in grateful recognition for their support of men & women serving our Country and well as their families. Discussion followed the presentation.

The Town received a request for approval of a large gathering permit for Salvatorian Fathers Polonia Pilgrimage. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

The Town received a request for approval of a large gathering permit for the India Fest. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated July 11, 2017. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of June 27, 2017. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**BUDGET & FINANCE:**

Mr. Pettit was absent, no report.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

Mr. Minchuk had no report.

**COUNCIL AFFAIRS:**

Mrs. Uzelac had no report. President Hardaway said there are businesses not complying with obtaining proper business license to operate within the Town of Merrillville. Further discussion took place regarding different options as to how the Town will proceed with this matter.

**PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:**

Mrs. Barron had no report.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Mrs. Uzelac said the National Night Out will be Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> from 5-8 p.m. at Merrillville Town Hall. Mr. Spann spoke about how the event brings the community together. Details of the event were discussed.

**PARKS & RECREATION:**

Ms. LaMarca thanked everyone who participated in the Fourth of July parade. Ms. Orlich said the winners of the parade will be announced at the Town Council meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Orlich provided updates related to various Park improvements projects. The Jungle Book movie will be playing on Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at dusk. Ms. Orlich said the Concert in the Park will be Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup> and announced the line-up of performers. The Blue Chip Casino trip will be Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>. President Hardaway complimented the Parks Department for an overall great job.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:**

Mrs. Barron said the CAP Program will be held in November and encouraged everyone to continue saving caps. She provided information regarding a demonstration and test results related to compost. Mrs. Barron mentioned that there is now a food compost site located in Gary. Mrs. Barron said the July-December recycle grant money will be mailed out in August. Further discussion followed related to the recyclable benches and details of the CAP program.

**ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:** Ms. LaMarca had no report.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

Mr. Pettit was absent, no report.

**UTILITY LIAISON:**

Mr. Spann had no report.

**ABANDONED PROPERTIES:**

President Hardaway had no report.

**GENERAL ORDERS:**

**FIRST READING ORDINANCES:** None

**SECOND READING ORDINANCES:**

**Ord. 17-12:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, providing that the Zoning Ordinance Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana be amended by changing the established R-2, Single Family Residential Zoning District to a C-1, Neighborhood Commercial Classification. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Res. 17-18:** A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana authorizing temporary loans to fulfill monetary requirements necessary for debt service payments (as of 6-30-17). Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Res. 17-19:** A Confirmatory Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, designating an Economic Revitalization Area. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Spann. President Hardaway requested to open up session for any public comment for Res. 17-19. There was no public comment. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**BZA ACTIONS:**

**Petitioner:** Dwayne Williams  
**Owner:** Dan Leshner & Robin Leshner  
**Request:** Variance of use approval  
**Purpose:** Proposed Micro-Brewery  
**Location:** 6507 Broadway  
**Zoning:** C-3, Highway Commercial  
**Case #:** Z23Uv6-0617

Mr. Williams was presents and requested that the Town Council decline his petition at this time due to conflict with lease agreement for the property. Mr. Williams said he is in the process of finding another location and understands that he will need to start the BZA process over once ready. Mr. Williams expressed his appreciation for all of the hard work put into this petition process. Mrs. Barron made a motion to withdraw the petition and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Petitioner:** Jose Sugrez  
**Owner:** Jose Sugrez  
**Request:** Special exception approval  
**Purpose:** To allow dine-in seating in a retail grocery store  
**Location:** 6635 Broadway  
**Zoning:** C-3, Highway Commercial  
**Case #:** Z24E13-0617  
**Conditions:** For this petitioner only, at this location only, for this use only

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. Discussion followed. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office at Town Hall.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Plan Commission meeting, July 18, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.  
Environmental Resource Committee meeting, July 20, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.  
Town Council workshop, July 25, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.  
Town Council meeting, July 25, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mrs. Barron made a motion to adjourn was seconded by Ms. LaMarca.

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**Richard Hardaway, President**

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**Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer**